Making Bilaspur Railway Zone

†500. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date position of implementation of the decision to make Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh a Railway zone; and

(b) the expected date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The inaugural function of Bilaspur zone was held on 20.9.98. An Officer-on-Special Duty in the rank of General Manager has been posted at Bilaspur. The development of Bilaspur zone is being done in a phased manner. An amount of Rs. 0.47 crores (Approx.) has been spent during 1998-99 on the development of Bilaspur zone and another Rs. 3.0 crores has been provided in the Budget for 1999-2000.

(b) The zones have been planned to be set up in a phased manner over a period of five years.

Computerised Rail Reservation at Vidisha

†501. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether computerised rail reservation facility is available at Vidisha railway station under the Central Railway;

(b) if not, by when such facility is likely to be provided there; and

(c) At which railway stations under the Central Railway, computerised reservation facility is proposed to be provided during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal at present.

(c) The PRS facility is proposed to be provided at Maihar, Babina, Shirdi out agency and Ballabgarh Railway stations during the next three years.

Money for Safety Measures in the Railways

502. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how much money was earmarked for safety-related measures during the last five years, year-wise, and whether the whole of the amount was not expended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.